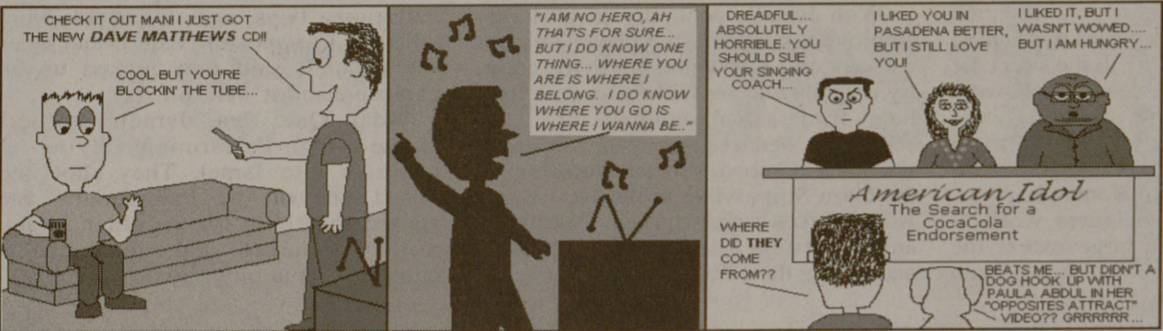


Jack

by R. DeLuna



Beernuts by Rob Appling



the Wuss Cookie by Adrian



CORRECTION

Correction to Wednesday's story "PTTS raises parking garage prices for fall semester"
The article reads, "For students who commute to campus, free parking is offered to those wanting to use the garages in the evening hours."
Free parking is only offered for commuters wanting to park in the University Center Garage adjacent to the John R. Koldus Building from 5:30 p.m. to 12 a.m.
In addition, the article is misleading when it states, the higher prices for parking will help to cover expenses needed for repairs and maintenance for all garages, including the West Campus Garage being built near the Student Recreation Center.

Welch

Continued from page 1

freshmen and sophomores. The class became so popular it is now limited to freshmen and is not included in the semester course catalogs.

"A compliment toward the class is that because of the popularity, we don't even put it into the schedule book," Welch said. "We just open it to incoming freshman in business and incoming freshman in general studies. They open about 50 seats for each new student conference."

Anyone who has taken this course will remember what occurs at the beginning of every class; yes, Welch still does the "bad joke of the day."

"One of my favorite bad jokes is, 'What did the fish say when it hit the wall? Dam,'" he jokingly said.

MGMT 105 and the bad joke of the day is only one aspect of Welch's impact on A&M.

Welch also teaches MGMT 309 and 363 and some graduate courses. He is also the adviser to the Aggie Men's Club.

"One of my greatest passions is being the adviser to the Aggie Men's Club," he said. "It is a Christian service-driven organization."

Welch also served as the director of the Business School Fellows & Honors Programs, the associate director of the

Center for Teaching Excellence and the director of student activities.

As director of student activities, Welch was responsible for the leadership of over 750 recognized student organizations. Welch said he greatly enjoyed serving as the director because he was able to work with students from all areas of campus, including student government and the student body president.

Welch has received many awards and honors including being a Fish Camp namesake in 1991 — the year after he began teaching at A&M. He also was a T-Camp namesake in 1992. He received the Corps-wide Outstanding Academic Adviser and two University-wide awards. He was also named Teacher-of-the-Year by the Student Government and Professor-of-the-Year for Greek affiliates.

Welch appreciates all his awards but said his two highest honors were in 1994 when he received the University-wide Association of Former Students Award for Student Relations and in 1999 when he received the University-wide award for mentor of the year.

He said his mentor award stands above the others because the award is associated with students and impacting their lives.

Welch has also been a speaker at many Aggie Musters in Houston, Los Angeles,

Atlanta, Texas A&M-Galveston, Baytown and more. "There is nothing more sacred than honoring the lives of Aggies at Muster," he said.

Welch's list of awards is certainly impressive, but his love for A&M and his family seem much more prevalent.

Welch said the College of Business has been especially good to him and he plans to retire from A&M after many years of service. He said he still has many goals to achieve.

"My ultimate goal...I would like to be an assistant dean for student affairs in the Business School," he said.

Welch married his wife, Sherri in 1991; they have three children whom he never shies away from talking about — Rachel, 7; Ryan, 5; and Graham, 2.

"[My children] are immersed in the Aggie Spirit," Welch said. "(When learning the alphabet), they say A is for Aggie, B is for Bonfire, etcetera."

Welch said he is so appreciative of what Aggies have given back to his family. Last year Rachel was diagnosed with a rare muscle disease and Aggies responded by sending thousands of emails and letters to Rachel and the family, wishing prayers and wellness.

"I love the quality of students that impact this campus, and that A&M is truly a family," he said.

Spanish forces evict Moroccans

JEBEL LEILA, Morocco (AP) — Elite Spanish soldiers swooped in aboard helicopters Wednesday, capturing a disputed Mediterranean island occupied by Moroccan soldiers for more than a week. Neither side fired a shot.

The Spanish soldiers quickly detained the troops in the surprise assault on the island claimed by both countries, supplanting the Moroccan flag with their own. Morocco said the operation was tantamount to "an act of war" and demanded that Spain withdraw.

Tensions have escalated in the week since Morocco established an outpost on the tiny island known in Spanish as Isla Perejil — Parsley Island — and in Arabic as Leila — Night.

Relations between the two countries, which face each other across the Strait of Gibraltar, have soured since Morocco recalled its ambassador to Madrid last fall.

The countries have bickered over illegal immigration and fishing rights, as well as Madrid's insistence that a U.N.-sponsored referendum should be held on the Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony annexed by Morocco in the 1970s.

Madrid-based political analyst Charles Powell said the response of the government of Spain

Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar was comparable to Margaret Thatcher's attitude toward Argentina's 1982 attempt to take the Falkland Islands by force, which led to a British-Argentine war. However, the island in the Mediterranean is unoccupied, unlike the Falklands.

Although Powell said it was inconceivable that Spain and Morocco would go to war, he said Aznar was sending a message: "You don't need major European power like this and think you can get away with it."

Spain says it has controlled the island since 1668, even though it abandoned a permanent presence four decades ago. The island lies about 10 miles from Ceuta, one of two Spanish enclaves along Morocco's northern coast.

Morocco also claims title to the island and set up the "observation post" to combat smuggling of drugs and illegal immigrants.

On July 11, a 12-member Moroccan police force landed on the island, set up tents and raised the national flag. They were later replaced by Moroccan soldiers.

Spain responded by deploying five warships and initially saying it wanted to resolve the dispute through negotiations.

Langford

Continued from page 1

One of the most dynamic possibilities outlined by the plan is the integration of "Wi-Fi" technology, or wireless ethernet. College officials envision a facility where students are able to connect to the Internet anywhere at anytime throughout the building.

In addition to the possibility of Wi-Fi, the new expansion will have the latest in digital technology, including high-speed network connections, broadband Internet access, wireless local area network (LAN) and advanced audiovisual equipment.

The auditorium will have seating complete with microphones and network connections. Ford, Powell and Carson Architects and Planners, Inc.,

has been put in charge of designing the 16,000 square-foot expansion that is scheduled to complete in the spring of 2004.

One of the major decisions facing the design team concerns the location of the facility itself. The expansion can be a stand-alone structure with no connection to the existing building or it can be incorporated into the already existing Langford structures.

TTI

Continued from page 1

engineer and co-author of the report admitted there are some problems with the methodology, but dismissed the idea that the report's findings were any less relevant.

"There are definitely shortcomings in the methodology," he said. "There are changes we are making. I don't think that they change the interpretation or bottom line of the report."

Lomax said WSDOT is currently reviewing methodology changes in the Urban Mobility Report.

"We had been in contact with WSDOT since before they pulled out," he said. "If our revisions fit into their time schedule, they will rejoin."

In addition, the Surface Transportation Policy Project (STPP) released a statement questioning the reliability of the report.

According to the STPP, TTI's report fails to

distinguish among cars, buses and vans, resulting in a measure of vehicle mobility, not the mobility of people.

"I sympathize with TTI and anyone else trying to better understand our transportation system," said Sarah Campbell, chair of STPP's board of directors. "But in this case, as in many others, the data just isn't there."

Several years ago, STPP had begun publishing a companion report to the Urban Mobility Report because of concerns over the data's reliability. In a June 19 press release, STPP announced it will no longer publish the companion analysis "because of doubts about the validity of the data in accurately measuring congestion and accounting for investments to combat it."

Lomax said many of the criticisms already have been taken into account and are mentioned in the methodology of the report.

"STPP's concerns are different," Lomax said. "They have an agenda. They want to endorse certain programs or projects."

First Yell

Continued from page 1

Virginia Tech," said junior yell leader Tim Bailey.

First Yell began four years ago as a way to start the Aggie football season with a weekend of activities leading up to the first Yell Practice.

However, due to classes beginning on the Monday, Sept. 2, following the first game this year, First Yell will be held prior to the second

football game. "There is a big Aggie joke about how Aggies do 'first things second,'" Thompson said. "But we wanted parents to come back and it gives us three weeks to promote the weekend."

Tickets will go on sale beginning Aug. 19 through Ticketmaster.

From now until Aug. 9 a form is available online at <http://yell.tamu.edu> that students can fill out and mail

back to the MSC Box Office to reserve their seats before the Thompson said.

Thompson said that he expects a sell-out crowd of 8,000 similar to last year when comedians Bill Engvall and Jeff Foxworthy performed.

"Each of the comedian managements say they are very excited about performing for 8,000 people and are familiar with this kick-off event," Thompson said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

IRA apology for killing 650 divides Northern Ireland

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — The citizens of Northern Ireland agonized Wednesday over the Irish Republican Army's apology for killing hundreds of civilians — but not for more than a thousand other people deemed "combatants."

Analysts and IRA veterans argued that Tuesday's unprecedented gesture demonstrated that IRA commanders want their self-declared war to be seen as finished, not merely on hold. The IRA has been observing a cease-fire since

1997, but remains heavily armed and has not achieved its goal of abolishing Northern Ireland as a British territory.

"This is another step along that path towards eventually saying, 'Yes, the war against the British state in Ireland is over. And we didn't win.' It is significant and painful," said Tommy McKearney, a former IRA member who had three brothers and an uncle killed in the conflict.

In Tuesday's partial apology, the IRA said it wanted to demonstrate "the acceptance of past mistakes and of the hurt and pain we have caused to others."

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